

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lero et al.	Attorney Docket No.: RCIF 1002-2
Application No.: 10/734,723	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: 12 December 2003	Group: Unassigned
Title: FOUP Door Transfer System	Confirmation No.: 1978
	Customer No. 22470

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. '1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP '609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

☒ Form PTO/SB/08A. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. '609.

☒ A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. '1.98. However, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U. S. Patents and U. S. Patent Application Publications are not enclosed. (See O. G. Notice of August 5, 2003.)

☒ Also enclosed is a copy of a PCT Search Report mailed September 6, 2004 for a corresponding PCT Application.

This statement should be considered because:

☒ 37 C.F.R. '1.97(b). This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. '1.97, subsection (b) because:

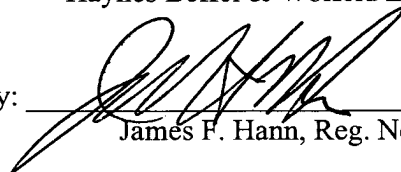
It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

Fee Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (RCIF 1002-2). A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld LLP

Date: 29 November 2004

By: _____



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
Application Number		10/734,723			
Filing Date		12/12/2003			
First Named Inventor		Christophe Lero			
Group Art Unit		Unassigned			
Examiner Name		Unassigned			
Attorney Docket Number		RCIF 1002-2			
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	4,299,533		Ohnaka	11-10-1981	
	A2	4,897,015		Abbe et al.	01-30-1990	
	A3	5,046,992		Tamai et al.	09-10-1991	
	A4	5,178,512		Skrobak	01-12-1993	
	A5	5,741,113		Bacchi et al.	04-21-1998	
	A6	5,765,983		Caveney et al.	06-16-1998	
	A7	5,816,770		Itagaki	10-06-1998	
	A8	5,885,052		Tsuji et al.	03-23-1999	
	A9	5,984,610		Rush et al.	11-16-1999	
	A10	5,993,141		Wytman	11-30-1999	
	A11	6,013,920		Gordon et al.	01-11-2000	
	A12	6,037,733		Genov et al.	03-14-2000	
	A13	6,048,162		Molslehi	04-11-2000	
	A14	6,053,688		Cheng	04-25-2000	
	A15	6,062,099		Suwa et al.	05-16-2000	
	A16	6,099,238		Tsubota	08-08-2000	
	A17	6,102,649		Ogawa et al.	08-15-2000	
	A18	6,155,131		Suwa et al.	12-05-2000	
	A19	6,155,768		Bacchi et al.	12-05-2000	
	A20	6,188,323		Rosenquist et al.	02-13-2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	WO	98/31514		Brooks Automation Inc.	07-23-1998		
	B2	WO	00/40379		Brooks Automation Inc.	07-13-2000		
	B3	WO	00/41855		Asyst Technologies Inc.	07-20-2000		
	B4	WO	00/47501		Asyst Technologies Inc.	08-17-2000		
	B5	WO	00/51920		PRI Automation Inc.	09-08-2000		
	B6	JP	2000 286319		Canon Inc.	10-13-2000		
	B7							
	B8							
	B9							
	B10							

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A21	6,276,892		Haraguchi et al.	08-21-2001	
	A22	6,293,746		Ogawa et al.	09-25-2001	
	A23	6,297,611		Todorov et al.	10-02-2001	
	A24	6,368,049		Osaka et al.	04-09-2002	
	A25	6,470,927		Otaguro	10-29-2002	
	A26	6,471,037		Matsumoto	10-29-2002	
	A27	6,485,250		Hofmeister	11-26-2002	
	A28	6,517,304		Matsumoto	02-11-2003	
	A29	6,533,521		Todorov et al.	03-18-2003	
	A30	6,541,787		Lin et al.	04-01-2003	
	A31					
	A32					
	A33					
	A34					
	A35					
	A36					
	A37					
	A38					
	A39					
	A40					

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	B16							
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	B19							
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